Losses to DD

†*343. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Doordarshan is incurring losses of crores of rupees;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the action Government are taking in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Prasar Bharati has informed that the expenditure and revenue of Doordarshan for the last 3 years is as follows:-

Year	Revenue Earned (Gross Commercial Revenue (in Rs.)	Expenditure Incurred (in Rs.)
2002-03 (estimated)	550.00 Crores	1063.24 Crores
2001-02	615.21 Crores	924.72 Crores
2000-01	637.51 Crores	954.47 Crores

Doordarshan is a Public Service Broadcaster under the Prasar Bharati Corporation, set up under the Prasar Bharati Act, 1990, with the primary duty to organise and conduct Public Broadcasting Services to inform, educate and entertain the public and to ensure a balanced development of Broadcasting. These objectives are enjoined under the Prasar Bharati Act itself. This mandate, cannot be overridden by considerations, applicable to commercial broadcasters. However, Prasar Bharati has informed that it has been making efforts to generate additional revenue without diluting its mandate as a Public Service Broadcaster.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.